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TAGS: PREL KPKO UNSC MASS SU AR

SUBJECT: ARGENTINA REVIEWING CONTRIBUTION TO UN/AU HYBRID  
OPERATION IN DARFUR

REF: SECSTATE 90022

(SBU) On July 3 Ambassador raised possible Argentine troop contributions to the Darfur UN/AU Hybrid Operations with Foreign Minister Taiana. Taiana noted that the GoA already had 11 Gendarmeria in Sudan as Police Observers. He said the GoA was currently reviewing the possibility of additional contributions. Contacts at the Ministry of Defense reported that they are reviewing the possibility of sending a handful of Military Observers. In his comments to the Ambassador, Taiana stated that one of the reasons Argentina had pulled its engineering platoon out of Kosovo was to give it more flexibility to respond to PKO requests, particularly under UN auspices. Taiana made no commitments, and he noted Argentina's limited resources, but he told the Ambassador that Argentina would like to respond positively. Post will stay in contact with the MFA and MOD and keep Department apprised of developments.

WAYNE